

**Comments of the Passive House DC Chapter & the Passive House Network  
In Support of  
Mainstreaming & Incentivizing Passive House Homes & Buildings  
SB 317 (Senators Brooks, West and Sydnor)**

The Passive House DC chapter and the Passive House Network supports education and training, as well as voluntary incentives for new and existing homes and buildings that are certified to the Passive House standards. We compliment the sponsors of [SB 317](#) for proposing what appears to be the first in the nation tax credit to promote above code building practices achieving Passive House certification.

Passive House DC, an affiliate of the Passive House Network (<https://naphnetwork.org/>), is comprised of design professionals, trades, building science consultants, builders and other advocates promoting market transformation through the adoption of Passive House as a design and construction practice for new homes and buildings, as well as for deep energy efficiency retrofits of existing homes and buildings. Passive House is the only construction standard that radically cuts carbon emissions from buildings and can deliver energy savings upwards of 60% when compared with national model energy codes.

Passive House is the future of design and construction, and has already been mainstreamed in Brussels, and established as the 2030 goal in Vancouver British Columbia for all new construction. Many states and large cities are following suit and adopting Passive House as their target for new government buildings, affordable housing, and in the state and local reach codes to address climate and equity policy goals as well as a grid resiliency and building decarbonization strategies.

Some of the benefits of Passive House homes and buildings include, but are not limited to:

1. Equity for Occupants in the form of substantially reduced energy bills
2. Improved Indoor Air and Environmental Quality for occupants
3. Deep Energy Savings surpassing code minimums, ENERGY STAR and DOE Zero Energy Ready Homes & Multifamily
4. Ability to Safely Shelter-in-Place during extreme weather events and loss of power
5. Substantial Carbon Reductions over code and above code programs
6. A Grid Resiliency strategy, and
7. The ideal pre-requisite and foundation for Building Decarbonization and Electrification policy

We look forward to working with the Senators and allies, as well as the Maryland-based Passive House advocates, to move this important tax credit forward.

Thank you for leading!

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